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To enable His MAJESTY to accept the Services of Volunteers from the Militia of *Ireland*, under certain Reſtrictions.

Note.—*The Figures in the Margin denote the Number of the Folios in the written Copy.*

1 WHEREAS it would be highly beneficial to the Public Service, that a Proportion of the Militia Forces of *Ireland* ſhould be permitted to enter into the Regiments of the Line for general Service, for the Purpoſe of encreaſing the diſpoſeable Force of the Empire; Preamble:

May it therefore pleaſe Your MAJESTY,

That it may be Enacted; **And be it Enacted**, by the KING's Moſt Excellent MAJESTY, by and with the Advice and Conſent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this preſent Parliament aſſembled, and by the Authority of the ſame, That it ſhall be lawful for His Majeſty by any Order ſignified by the Lord Lieutenant or other Chief Governor or Governors of *Ireland* for the time being, or his or their Chief Secretary, to order and direct any ſuch Regiments of the Line as His Majeſty ſhall name and appoint, to receive Volunteers from the Militia Forces of *Ireland*, for general Service, out of any Regiment, Battalion, or Corps of the ſaid Militia named in any ſuch Order; And that it ſhall be lawful for any private Militia Man in the ſaid Militia to enliſt under this Act for general Service, ſubject to the Regulations hereinafter mentioned, into any ſuch Regiment of the Line of His Majeſty's Regular Forces as His Majeſty ſhall hereafter by any ſuch 2 Order as aforeſaid from time to time name and appoint to receive Volunteers from the Regiment, Battalion, or Corps of Militia to which any ſuch private Man ſhall at the Time of ſuch enliſting under this Act belong. His Majeſty empowered to direct Regiments of the Line to receive Volunteers from the Militia, and Militia Men may volunteer accordingly.

And be it further Enacted, That every Commanding Officer of any Regiment, Battalion, or Corps of the Militia of *Ireland*, ſhall, upon receiving His Majeſty's Directions ſignified as aforeſaid for that Purpoſe, explain to Commanding Officers ſhall explain Terms of enliſting to Militia Men;

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the private Men of the Regiment, Battalion, or Corps of which he ſhall for the time being have the Command, in ſuch Manner and at ſuch Times (within from the Time of his firſt receiving ſuch Directions) as His Majeſty ſhall by any ſuch Order appoint, the Terms upon which any private Man ſerving in the ſaid Militia may enliſt into the Regular Forces for general Service under this Act; and if upon the Terms of ſuch enliſting being explained and made known to them as aforeſaid, any private Militia Man ſhall voluntarily declare an Intention to be enliſted into His Majeſty's Regular Forces for general Service, it ſhall be lawful for ſuch Commanding Officer as aforeſaid, and every ſuch Commanding Officer is hereby required, to diſcharge ſuch Perſon from the ſaid Militia; and every ſuch private Militia Man ſo diſcharged as aforeſaid ſhall immediately belong as a private Man to the Regiment or Corps into which he ſhall declare his Intention to enliſt, and ſhall be immediately enliſted and 3
atteſted for ſuch Regiment or Corps in due Courſe of Law, and ſhall, as ſoon as conveniently may be, be transferred to ſome Officer of ſuch Regiment or Corps, or ſuch Officer as His Majeſty may have appointed to receive Men enliſted under this Act, and ſhall have and be entitled to ſuch Bounty, and in ſuch Manner as His Majeſty may, in that Behalf direct, together with Subſiſtence, Pay, and Clothing, to be paid and furniſhed in like Manner in every reſpect, and ſubject to and under the like Laws, Rules, and Regulations as are provided and uſed for the Regiment or Corps of His Majeſty's Regular Forces into which ſuch private Militia Man ſhall have enliſted for general Service as aforeſaid, any Act or Acts in force in *Ireland* to the contrary thereof in any wiſe notwithſtanding.

and ſhall diſcharge Militia Men volunteering accordingly.

Perſons refuſing to enliſt, or not actually enliſted after Declaration, ſhall continue to belong to Militia

Provided always, and be it Enacted, That if any Perſon ſo diſcharged from the ſaid Militia, for the Purpoſe of being enliſted into His Majeſty's Regular Forces under this Act, ſhall refuſe to enliſt purſuant to any Declaration of being deſirous to enliſt ſo made by him as aforeſaid, or ſhall be rejected by any Officer to be appointed for inſpecting Men ſo offering to enliſt, or ſhall by any Means not be actually enliſted into the Regular Forces under this Act, then and in every ſuch Caſe ſuch Perſon ſhall continue to belong to the Regiment, Battalion, or Corps of Militia from which he ſhall have been ſo diſcharged for the Purpoſe of being enliſted as afore- 4
ſaid, notwithſtanding any ſuch Diſcharge.

Perſons confined under Sentence of Courts Martial, &c. not entitled to enliſt but provi-ſionally.

Provided alſo, and be it further Enacted, That no private Militia Man ſhall be entitled to enliſt under this Act who ſhall be in Confinement under any Sentence of any Court Martial, or who ſhall be under Confinement with a view to being tried by any Court Martial, until he ſhall have ſuffered the Sentence of ſuch Court Martial; and that no private Militia Man ſhall be entitled to his Diſcharge or to enliſt under this Act, who ſhall have been in Confinement or who ſhall have been ſentenced to any Puniſhment by any Court Martial for any Offence committed within the Space of previous to the Time of his ſo offering to enliſt, unleſs he ſhall obtain the Conſent of the Colonel or Commanding Officer of the Regiment, Battalion, or Corps of Militia in which he ſhall be ſerving at the Time of his being deſirous of enliſting as aforeſaid.

Muſicians or Armourers not entitled to enliſt without Conſent of the Commanding Officer.

Provided alſo, and be it further Enacted, That no Perſon ſerving in the Militia who ſhall be uſually employed as a Muſician in the Band of the Regiment, Battalion, or Corps of Militia to which he ſhall belong, or ſhall be uſually employed as an Armourer, Paymaſter's or Adjutant's Clerk, or Regimental Clerk, in any ſuch Regiment, Battalion, or Corps, ſhall be entitled to his Diſcharge or to enliſt into His Majeſty's Regular Forces under this Act, unleſs he ſhall obtain the Conſent for that Purpoſe of the Colonel 5
or

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or Commanding Officer of the Regiment, Battalion, or Corps of Militia in which he ſhall be then ſerving.

No greater Proportion to be diſcharged than H if the Surplus beyond Seventy Men per Company.

Provided always, and be it further Enacted, That nothing in this Act contained ſhall authorize any Colonel or Commanding Officer of any Regiment, Battalion, or Corps of the ſaid Militia, to diſcharge or cauſe to be diſcharged under the Proviſions of this Act any greater Number of Private Militia Men of the Regiment, Battalion, or Corps of which he is Colonel or Commanding Officer, than in the Proportion of One-half of the Number of Men in ſuch Regiment, Battalion, or Corps, exceeding the Amount of Seventy Men per Company.

Commanding Officer may refuſe to diſcharge Men on aſſigning Cauſe to General of the Diſtrict, &c.

Provided alſo, and be it further Enacted, That it ſhall be lawful for the Colonel or Commanding Officer of any Regiment, Battalion, or Corps of Militia to refuſe to diſcharge any private Man who ſhall deſire his Diſcharge for the Purpoſe of being enliſted into His Majeſty's Regular Forces for general Service under this Act, upon aſſigning in writing to the General Officer commanding in the Diſtrict within which ſuch Regiment, Battalion, or Corps ſhall be quartered, or to the Adjutant General of His Majeſty's Forces, where there ſhall not be any ſuch General Officer as aforeſaid, ſuch Cauſe for his Refuſal as ſhall be deemed ſufficient by ſuch General Officer or Adjutant General, as the Caſe may be.

If more than Proportion offer, Colonel may ſelect the Men, with Approbation of General of the Diſtrict.

6 Provided alſo, and be it Enacted, That in caſe the Number of Men offering to enliſt in any one Regiment, Battalion, or Corps ſhall exceed the Proportion hereinbefore mentioned, it ſhall and may be lawful for the Colonel or other Commanding Officer of ſuch Regiment, Battalion, or Corps, with the Conſent and Approbation of the General Officer commanding in the Diſtrict within which ſuch Regiment, Battalion, or Corps ſhall be quartered, or of the Adjutant General of His Majeſty's Forces, where there ſhall not be any ſuch General Officer as aforeſaid, to ſelect, out of the whole Number of Men ſo offering to enliſt, ſuch Men, in the Proportion hereinbefore mentioned, as ſuch Colonel or Commanding Officer ſhall, with ſuch Conſent and Approbation as aforeſaid, think fit; and ſuch Men ſo ſelected ſhall be enliſted accordingly under the Proviſions of this Act: Provided alſo, that whenever the Number of private Men of any Regiment, Battalion, or Corps ſo offering to enliſt ſhall exceed the Proportion before mentioned, none of the private Men ſo offering to enliſt ſhall be diſcharged until the Conſent and Approbation of ſuch General Officer or Adjutant General to ſuch Selection as aforeſaid ſhall have been ſignified to the Colonel or Commanding Officer of ſuch Regiment, Battalion, or Corps; and that 7 when and as ſoon as ſuch Approbation ſhall have been ſignified as aforeſaid, the ſaid Colonel or Commanding Officer ſhall forthwith diſcharge, and he is hereby required to diſcharge the Men ſo ſelected and approved of as aforeſaid.

Officers to be appointed to inſpect, approve, or reject Volunteers.

And be it further Enacted, That it ſhall be lawful for His Majeſty to appoint ſuch General or Field Officers, ſpecially authorized by His Majeſty or the Commander in Chief of His Majeſty's Forces for that Purpoſe, to inſpect, approve, or reject the Men who ſhall be deſirous of enliſting under this Act; and ſuch Officers may approve of or reject ſuch Men accordingly; Provided always, That Nothing in this Act contained ſhall extend to authorize any ſuch Officers to reject any Man deſirous of enliſting into His Majeſty's Regular Forces who ſhall be of the Height of

Not to reject Men who ſhall be of the Height of Feet Inches, and not diſabled.

or upwards, and under the Age of Years, and not diſabled by Lameneſs or other bodily Infirmity.

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Commanding Officers ſhall tranſmit to Lord Lieutenant, &c. an Account of the Number of Men diſcharged from their reſpective Regiments under this Act.

And be it further Enacted, That the ſeveral Colonels or Commanding Officers of the ſeveral Regiments, Battalions, or Corps of the ſaid Militia ſhall within Days after the receiving any Order for that Purpoſe from His Majeſty, ſignified by the Lord Lieutenant or other Chief Governor or Governors of *Ireland* for the time being, or his or their Chief Secretary, tranſmit to the Lord Lieutenant or other Chief Governor or Governors of *Ireland*, or his or their Chief Secretary for the time being, an accurate Account in Writing of the Number of Perſons who ſhall have been diſcharged from the Militia of their reſpective Regiments, Battalions, or Corps, under the Proviſions of this Act.

Act may be altered or repealed this Seſſion.

And be it further Enacted, That this Act may be amended, altered, or repealed by any Act or Acts to be made in the preſent Seſſion of Parliament.

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B I L L

To enable His Majesty to accept the Services of Volunteers from the Militia of *Ireland*, under certain Restrictions.

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